



Valvular Heart Disease

IMPACT OF VASODILATOR USE ON PROGNOSIS IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC SEVERE MITRAL REGURGITATION: MODULATED BY ASSOCIATED HYPERTENSION

Poster Contributions

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Background: We showed that chronic vasodilator (V) use may increase cardiac events (CE) in patients (pts) with chronic severe aortic regurgitation (AR); V impact on CE and modulation of these effects by systolic hypertension (HTN) is undefined for chronic severe mitral regurgitation (MR).

Methods: We retrospectively analyzed 56 consecutive study eligible pts (age 50 ± 12 yrs, 71% male, 25% hypertensive) with isolated chronic severe non ischemic MR, followed through 18 yrs, to assess impact of chronic V at entry on CE (death or valve surgery). CE rate differences were assessed by Kaplan-Meier log rank comparison with Cox model analysis to test for statistical interaction between impact of HTN and V use.

Results: At entry, pts lacked surgical indications; 8 were chronically on angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor (6 pts) or receptor blocker (1 pt) or α adrenergic blocker (1 pt); pts were similar on age, gender, LVEF, RVEF, and LV dimensions (all NS). During follow up, CE included sudden death (1), heart failure (6), atrial-fib (6), LVIDs>4.5cm (18), LVEF<60% (12), RVEF<35% (3), combination CE (3). Overall, V use did not predict CE but an interaction ($p=.05$) indicated that, with chronic V, pts without systolic HTN had higher CE risk while those with HTN nominally had lower CE risk(Figure).

Conclusions: As in AR, V use appears to confer no benefit in pts with chronic severe MR and may portend CE risk in pts without systolic HTN. Further research including larger numbers of MR pts on various V, with and without HTN, is needed.

